

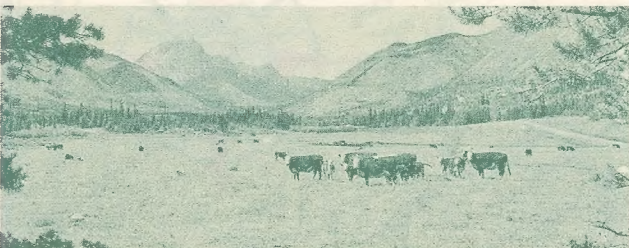


ALBERTA AT A GLANCE

Alberta, which has been described as the "Princess Province of Canada" was inaugurated on September 1, 1905, after a tremendous influx of settlers had made local autonomy feasible. Previously, western Canada had been part of the Northwest Territories and was originally controlled under the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Alberta is bounded on the north by the Northwest Territories, the south by the International Boundary and the State of Montana, on the east by Saskatchewan, and on the west by British Columbia. It totals 253,285 square miles of which 248,800 square miles are land surface. The remainder is made up of such large lakes as Lesser Slave, Lac La Biche and Lake Athabasca, as well as countless smaller lakes scattered throughout the province.

Generally speaking, Alberta consists of wilderness in its northern half, made up of forests and muskogs. Here people live by lumbering, trapping and hunting. Central Alberta and Peace River District are "parkland" country, made up of scattered forests and plains. This has become one of the richest agricultural areas in Canada. Southern Alberta, south of the 52nd parallel, consists of the prairies where ranching, farming, and irrigation provide a bountiful existence for its people. To the west are the Rocky Mountains and rolling foothills, offering some of the most beautiful scenery in Canada.



FOOTHILLS AND ROCKIES.

This division of Alberta into forests, parkland, prairies and mountains offers many variations in the livelihoods of its people. However, majority of Alberta's population is engaged in commercial or industrial employment, through the development of the oil, petrochemical and other industries. Agricultural production ranks second to industry in value of gross product.

WATER

Located on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, Alberta has many small streams and larger rivers which are important for human consumption, power, irrigation, and industrial use. In addition, the province's mountain streams are noted for sports fishing for trout, grayling and perch.

The main rivers in the more populated areas—the Saskatchewan, Bow, Red Deer, and Oldman—are unsuited for travel. However, the Athabasca River is still an important route to Canada's Northwest Territories and the Arctic.



IRRIGATION.



Oil

Alberta is famous in the production of petroleum, and the most prolific field in the British Commonwealth, having edged Trinidad from the leading position within 18 months of discovery of the Leduc field (February, 1947).

Disregarding certain sporadic efforts in the exploration for oil which had been carried on since 1891, it did not assume substantial proportions until the high consumption of the First Great War years intensified the search while mounting prices for crude helped finance the huge capital outlays and operating costs.

With the exception of operations in Turner Valley, the only crude oil field yet found in the Foothills, exploration had been concentrated in the plains area. But gradually the search moved northward, and in 1914, when the Lloydminster field was found, which is now a source of supply in the market for diesel and other heavy fuel oils such as are becoming more and more extensively used by railways, and asphaltic oils.

Active operations in the Turner Valley field date back to 1914, and reached their peak in 1942 when the Valley delivered more than 10,000,000 barrels or a total of nearly 56 million barrels in the 28 years of the field's operations to that date. During that time development had begun of a number of other fields, most of them heavy crude fields like the Lloydminster, earliest of which was the Wainwright in 1925. But they added comparatively little to the total Alberta output, most of which continued to come from the Valley.

The strain imposed on that single source by the Second Great War was tremendous, and after having reached its peak in 1942 the Valley's output began to decline, precipitating the search for new sources.

First rewards appeared in the early weeks of 1947 with discovery of the Leduc field which seems to have marked the beginning of an era in oil history so that oilmen speak of "before" and "after" Leduc. But it has been an extremely active era, for since then many new fields have been added.

There are now more than 9,000 oil wells and 2,000 gas wells capable of production, located throughout the province.

Principal sources of the increased oil production were the Leduc and Redwater fields and the comparatively recent discoveries in the Pembina field and the Swan Hills. These important developments have raised the total production capacity of the province to 800,000 bbls. per day. In 1949 prairie refinery capacity was only capable of handling 55,000 barrels per day. The construction of the interprovincial pipeline between Edmonton and Superior, Wisconsin in

ALL-WEATHER HIGHWAY.

AGRICULTURE

As in all pioneer communities, the early economy of Alberta was agricultural and farming continues to be one of the province's richest industries. On it many other multi-million-dollar industries depend—meat packing, for example, canning and flour milling. A hundred million acres of the province's area are agricultural, of which 70 million acres are arable and 46 million acres occupied.

Wheat is the most important of the crops, yielding in 1950 107 million bushels. With oats, barley, rye and other grain crops, root crops and fodder crops added, the total value of the 1950 crops was \$850 million. Alberta grains have frequently been winners, often in successive years, of some of the world's most coveted awards.

But the province is no less noted for livestock—the ranges in the rolling foothills have long been legendary. Two and a quarter million head of cattle roam the ranges and farms today giving sustenance to a \$240 million livestock industry. An additional one-quarter million head of milch cows form the basis of a \$47 million dairy industry.

One of the most notable chapters in Alberta's economic history is the development of irrigation in the former desert of the south. Today 15 major irrigation projects make some 993,000 acres independent of rainfall. Extension of existing projects and completion of projects like the Bow and St. Mary-Milk River developments are calculated to add almost 200,000 acres to this figure and thousands of new irrigated farms.

CLIMATE

The Alberta climate is subject to variations not only between the north and the south but between comparatively nearby places. In the south and northwest, weeks of low temperatures are frequently interrupted by the Chinook, a warm westerly wind originating in the Japanese current of the Pacific. Over a period of 55 years the average annual mean temperature at Edmonton has been 36.8° F., and at Calgary 38.4° F.

In the Peace River country, in the northwest of the Province, the mean temperature at Beaverlodge, observed over a period of 35 years, has been 35.3° F.

Mean monthly temperatures at these places over the periods stated have been, in Fahrenheit degrees:

	Edmonton degrees	Calgary degrees	Beaverlodge degrees
January	6.5	13.1	5.6
April	39	40	37.6
July	61.6	61.5	59.8
October	41.2	41.7	38.8

The Province which enjoys the title "Sunny Alberta" has a statistical record of more hours of sunshine, summer and winter, than any other in the Dominion, as the following average hours of bright sunshine per annum over a three-year period show: Calgary, Alberta, 2,245; Victoria, B.C., 2,207; Vancouver, B.C., 1,922; Winnipeg, 2,142; Toronto, 1,992; Montreal, 1,451; Halifax, 1,884.

POPULATION

Alberta's population is over 1,243,000, an overall population density of 5.0 persons per square mile of land area. This compares with the population of Ontario, 17.8 per square mile; Quebec, 9.5; British Columbia, 4.4; Montana, 4.6; Idaho, 7.7; New Jersey, 748.1.

Regions of Alberta's densest population are that of which Calgary is the centre (48.1 per square mile), that of which Edmonton is the centre (58.0 per square mile) and that of which Red Deer is the centre (11.3 per square mile). The least densely populated are the 150,000 square miles embracing McMurray and the Peace River country (.8 per square mile).

Racial Origins of Population

The last decennial census disclosed that 48 percent of population is of British Isles origin, 17 percent of American origin, 11 percent German and 11 percent Ukrainian. Other national origins make up 11 percent.



EDMONTON—CANADA'S FASTEST GROWING CITY.

1950 alleviated the situation to some extent. The 1,129 mile line took crude oil to the lake port where it was transported by water to refineries in southern Ontario. A 645 mile extension was completed in 1953 to Sarnia, Ontario, making it the longest pipe line in the world. The through-put capacity of the line was increased to 200,000 barrels per day. The Trans-Mountain pipe line running for 711 miles from Edmonton to Vancouver was also completed in 1953 and is capable of transporting 200,000 barrels of Alberta crude daily to west coast markets.

The area of exploration for Alberta oil now covers the whole province from British Columbia to the west to the coast on the east, and from the International Boundary to the edge of the Northwest Territories.

Estimated total Alberta oil production in 1950 was 130 million barrels with a production capacity of 300 million barrels annually. The province's 2,000 gas wells produced 250 million cubic feet of natural gas valued in excess of \$2 million.

Propane gas to whose production two refineries are devoted is becoming increasingly popular as fuel for some of the smaller communities and farm homes where natural gas is not yet available. Some motor transport systems have also made a start in the use of propane as a motive fuel.

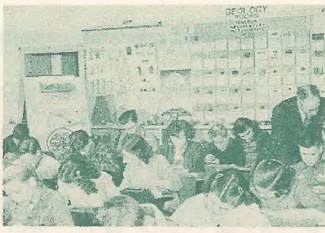
Oil Soaked Sands

Alberta's present oil reserves have been estimated at some 2,800,000,000 barrels. But this does not take account of the almost unknown quantity of the bituminous sands along the Athabasca River. North of Edmonton lies the tar sands area which is estimated to contain the world's largest single deposit of oil. In this 400,000-square-mile area, oil is found near the surface and mined like a mineral. The oil content of these sands has been variously estimated at from 100,000,000,000 barrels to 250,000,000,000 barrels.

Natural Gas

Natural gas reserves of Alberta are among the largest on the North American continent. Fuel costs, as a rule, are an important item in most factories. With cheap fuel at all Alberta industrial centres—and potentially almost anywhere in the province,—this consideration hardly exists.

Economy, freedom from ash and the absence of all need of attention on the part of the householder are some of the advantages of this fuel for domestic heating, which is practically universal in the larger urban communities.



EDUCATION IN MODERN CLASSROOMS.

Others too who had learned of the Province's vast undeveloped natural resources and rapidly expanding industrial economy have made their homes here.

EDUCATION

The Alberta education system is noted for its progressiveness. The entrance to the lowest grade of the primary school is the doorway to that corridor which has university graduation at its other end. Whether the pupil completes the whole journey depends upon his ability, his circumstances, his ambition, the profession he aspires to follow. In any event, secondary education leading to qualification for university entrance, is within the grasp of all and without cost to the pupil except for the purchase of textbooks.

Elementary and secondary schools are operated by school divisions and districts under the regulations of the Provincial Department of Education. Teacher training is under the faculty of Education of the University at Edmonton with a branch at Calgary. At Calgary also there is an Institute of Technology and Art. Schools of Agriculture are located at Olds and Vermilion.

The compulsory school age is from seven to fifteen, and the complete course consists of six years in elementary school, three years in junior high school and three years in senior high school.

Heading Alberta's institutions of higher learning is the University of Alberta at Edmonton, with a branch at Calgary to provide education courses as well as first year in arts and sciences. Affiliated with this are St. Joseph's and St. Stephen's Colleges, respectively Roman Catholic and United Church of Canada (non-conformist) theological schools, both at Edmonton, and Mount Royal College, Calgary.

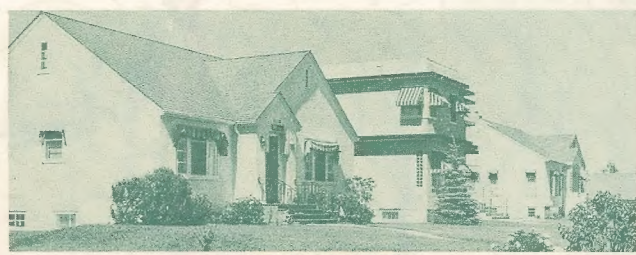
LABOR

Employers of labor in Alberta enjoy a comforting degree of immunity from irritating actions for damages arising out of accidents to their workers. This is provided by The Workmen's Compensation Act under which injured workers are compensated out of a fund raised by assessments in proportion to employers' payrolls according to rates struck for the class of employment.

Benefits of the plan may be summarized as follows:

To the employer: Immunity from action due to accidents.

To the workers: Such medical or other remedial attention as the board finds necessary from the time of the accident until cured.



RESIDENTIAL EDMONTON.



POWER DAM.

POWER RESOURCES

Three privately-owned utilities provide the main sources of hydro-electric power in Alberta, while some towns and cities operate their own steam-powered plants.

Centre of the hydro-electric power is on the upper waters of Bow River, west of Calgary. Here the mountain streams provide ample power for industrial and consumer use throughout south and central Alberta. Power capacity of all plants totals 748,000 kilowatts, and is expected to reach 1,116,000 kilowatts upon the completion of other major projects by 1962.

While the Bow River has provided Alberta's main source of power, large steam plants are now operating at Forestburg and Lake Wabamun. Extensions at the latter will provide a total capacity of 294,000 kilowatts. In addition a new hydro power project has been undertaken on the upper waters of the North Saskatchewan, west of Red Deer.

There are many undeveloped sites in the province, offering ideal sources of water power as Alberta increases in population and industry. These range from the Grand Rapids on the Athabasca River to many sites bordering the Rockies.

FORESTRY RESOURCES

Much of northern Alberta consists of forests and bush country, offering much merchantable timber and material for pulpwood industries. In 1958-1959, a total of 367 million board feet of lumber was produced in Alberta for use in the booming construction industry. Value of lumber and forest products was estimated at more than \$16,500,000.

Alberta contains about 130,620 square miles of forest lands of which 93,060 square miles is estimated to be merchantable timber. New plants have been erected at Hinton, Grande Prairie and Edmonton to manufacture pulp, plywood, wallboard and other products which utilize both timber and lower grade pulpwoods.

MANUFACTURING

Manufactured products have a value of over \$880 million per year. The largest industrial group is the foods and beverage manufacturers including meat processors, flour and breakfast food manufacturers. Three sugar refineries produce over 66,000 tons annually. Of growing importance is the Chemical industry producers of synthetic textiles and plastics. The petroleum industry produced a gross product in excess of \$160 million during 1958.



BLACKFOOT INDIAN

ren during illness, \$10 a month additional. Where there is no widow a foster parent may be granted the same compensation and allowances as a mother until the child reaches the age of 18.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Unemployment insurance came into operation in Canada in 1941 under the auspices of the Federal Government. It applies to all employed persons, with specified exceptions which include certain workers earning over \$5,460 a year.

Workers paid by the day or hour or on a mileage or piece-work basis continue to be insurable regardless of their earnings.

Employers and employees contribute amounts that will bring approximately equal totals from each group. A grant amounting to one-fifth of these contributions is added by the Federal Government, which assumes also the cost of administration.

COMMUNICATIONS

Alberta, with the rest of Canada, is well equipped with every type of communication—postal, telegraph, telephone and radio.

Postal

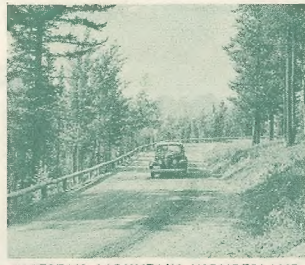
In the smaller towns and villages the public usually call at the post office for their mail, but farmers and others living in the country are served by rural mail routes.

A letter posted in Edmonton before 6 p.m. should be delivered in Montreal (2,153 miles distant) the afternoon of the following day, and one posted before 5:15 p.m. delivered in Vancouver (761 miles) by the next morning's delivery. A letter airmailed in Edmonton before 6:10 p.m. should be delivered in the afternoon mail in New York or Chicago. One airmailed in Edmonton before 12:35 noon is due to arrive in Los Angeles at one o'clock or at Tulsa, at 8:36 of the following morning or at Houston at three the following afternoon. (Times used in these last examples are times of arrival. From then on the mail is in the hands of local postal authorities).

Telegraphs

The telegraph system is operated by the three railways—Canadian National, Canadian Pacific and Northern Alberta.

The telephone system is owned and operated by the Alberta government, except at Edmonton where it is owned by the city and at certain rural points where it is operated on mutual lines.



ALBERTA'S MOUNTAIN WONDERLAND.



MALIGNE LAKE, JASPER.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Income Tax

Income tax is levied only by the Federal Government. It is dealt with by an Act of Parliament supplemented by volumes of instructions, amendments, schedules and what not, making it all too complicated to explain in short compass. It may, however, be helpful to the intending emigrant to examine the case of a typical taxpayer.

Let a single man's income be \$2,400 a year. He is allowed an automatic exemption of \$1,000, making his net taxable income \$1,400. On this he pays approximately \$233, most of which is deducted on a "pay as you work" policy.

If this were a married man without children, his exemption would be \$2,000 and his taxable income would be \$400, making his tax \$65. Exemptions for children are \$500 if the child is not qualified for family allowance; otherwise \$250. Persons 65 years of age and over may claim an additional \$500 exemption.

Cost of Living

In common with conditions the world over the cost of living trend is upward. For this reason it would be impractical to attempt a detailed discussion of a phase of life which is subject to such frequent changes.

Due mostly to lower rents, life in the small urban communities tends to be cheaper than in the larger. On the other hand, it must be borne in mind that these lower rents are often accompanied by fewer of the amenities with which the cities and larger towns are familiar.

In cities like Calgary and Edmonton it is possible today for a man and wife to rent an unfurnished suite for from \$45 to \$100.

Commodity Prices

A few typical medium-priced commodities may be stated as a rough indication. Eggs, dozen, 55 cents; milk, quart 20 cents; butter, lb. 65 cents; tea, lb., 90 cents; bread, loaf, 19 cents; beef, lb., 40 cents and up, men's suits, \$45 to \$110; shirts, \$3.50 to \$6.50; shoes, \$10 to \$20; women's dresses, street wear, \$20 and up; house wear, \$5 and up; shoes, children's, \$6 to \$10; suits, boy's \$15 and up.

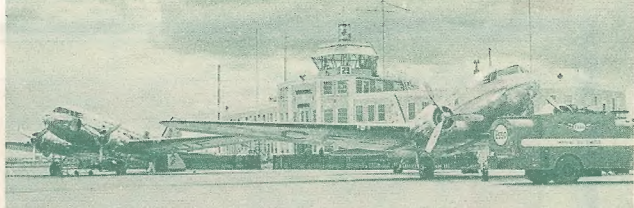
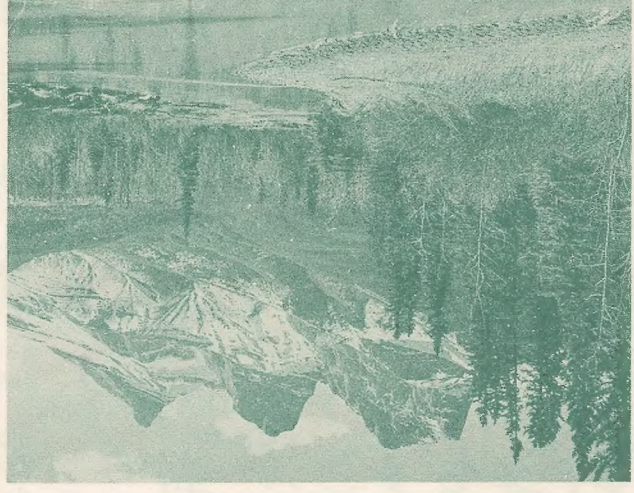
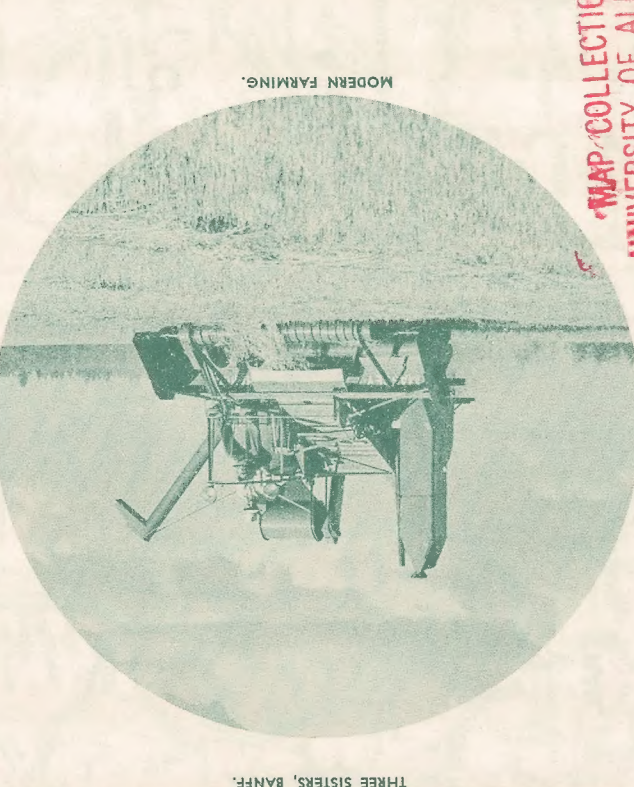
Wages

Minimum wages are established by law, but these do not necessarily coincide with scales formulated by trade unions in various areas of the province. A few examples of average wages at present paid in Alberta: Bricklayers, approximately,



HEREFORDS ON ALBERTA RANGE.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY
E. H. HUGHES,
Provincial Secretary
HON. A. RUSSELL PATRICK,
Deputy Provincial Secretary
Publications Branch
Prepared and Published by the



Radio

In addition to the radio broadcasting station operated by the provincial government's Department of Telephones at Edmonton and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's transmitter at Lacombe, there are 16 privately-owned broadcasting stations (including one French language) at Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Red Deer, Grande Prairie, Camrose, Drumheller, Lloydminster and Peace River. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) is a Crown corporation of the Federal Government. There are television stations at Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge.

ECONOMIC LIFE

Alberta has a population of 1,243,000 persons who live on farms, ranches, in villages, towns or in the province's ten cities.

The largest city, and provincial capital, is Edmonton, which has 303,000 persons with 240,000 families. Next is Calgary with 32,782; Medicine Hat with 21,740; Red Deer with 17,593; Grande Prairie with 7,410; Lloydminster (divided by Alberta-Saskatchewan border) with 2,783; Camrose with 6,042; Wetaskiwin with 4,863 and Drumheller with 2,650 persons.

The main methods of travel are by automobile, bus, train and air. Regular service is provided by three large airlines to other parts of Canada, the U.S., the Orient, and Canada's northland. In addition, smaller companies offer both passenger and freight service within Alberta.

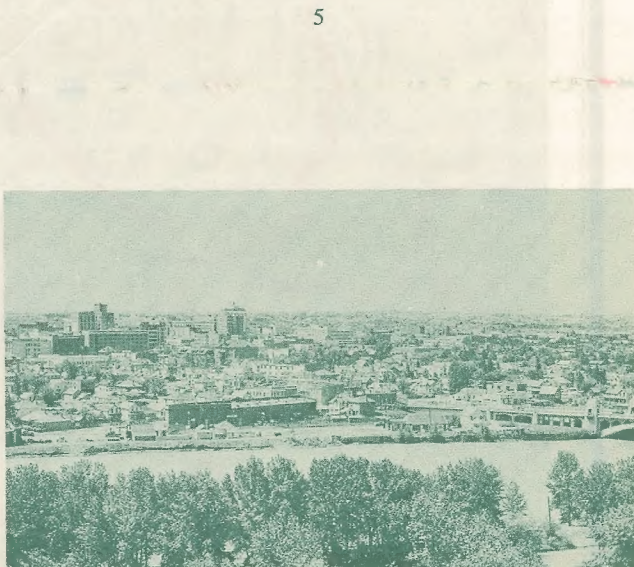
Two trans-Canada railways pass through Alberta, while branch lines cover all the important agricultural districts in the province. In addition, bus service offers a quick and economic means of travel. With its 87,430 miles of roads of which more than 2,778 are paved, automobile traffic is a popular mode of travel, particularly where great distances often exist between towns or cities. At the present time, there is an automobile for every 4.2 persons or a passenger car for every 1.03 families.

FUEL RESOURCES

Coal

By far the greatest part of Canada's, and a substantial percentage of the world's coal reserves lie in Alberta. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' estimate of reserves is 47,884,300,000 tons. In 1958, a total of 2,520,000 tons was produced.

Coal mined in Alberta includes all classifications including anthracite which has been discovered in small quantities.



CALGARY—CITY OF THE FOOTHILLS.

\$2.37 per hour; plumbers, \$2.40 per hour; electricians, \$2.21 per hour; reporters, newspaper, \$50 to \$80 per week; motor mechanics, \$1.98 per hour and up; painters, \$2.00 per hour; salesmen, retail, \$238 to \$400 a month; saleswomen, retail, \$147 to \$238 a month. (The lower wages shown are usually augmented by a commission on sales.) Clerks, office, \$230 to \$425 a month; common labor, \$1.58 an hour; truck drivers, \$1.61 an hour; steel workers, \$2.73 an hour; printers, \$2.00 to \$2.28 an hour.

Religion

The largest religious denomination is the United Church of Canada formed in 1925 by the union of all Methodists, many Presbyterians and most Congregationalists. Next in order are the Church of England in Canada (Anglican) and the Roman Catholic. Lutherans, Presbyterians, Baptists, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) and the Eastern Orthodox communions also are well represented.

Family Allowances

These are allowances paid by the Dominion Government for the maintenance of children. Rates effective September 1, 1957, are as follows: Under 10 years, \$6.00; over 10 years to 16 years, \$8.00. To be entitled a child must be a resident in Canada not less than one year.

The following publications can be obtained on request from the Director of Publications, Department of The Provincial Secretary, Legislative Building, Edmonton, Alberta.

INDUSTRIAL NEWS LETTER (Bi-Monthly)

WITHIN OUR BORDERS (General News of Alberta Developments — monthly)

ACCOMMODATION GUIDE TO SUNNY ALBERTA

ALBERTA ROAD MAP AND TOURIST INFORMATION

FAMILY HOLIDAY